(d) A presentation was made by NEC on, *inter-alia,* case study of Dhodar Ali Road, at the Conference of Chief Ministers of NE Region at Shillong in February, 2002. In that, it was pointed out that even though the road improvement work was sanctioned in 1989 and was originally scheduled to be completed by March, 2002, only 80% of works have been completed. The reasons for time overrun identified were:—

(i) Change of specification from Ordinary District Road (ODR) single lane to Major District Road (MDR).

(ii) Non-receipt of funds in time by implementing agency (Assam PWD) from Govemment of Assam.

(iii) Engagement of an excessive number of (150) contractors for execution of 100 kms. road work.

NEC Amendment Bill

4800. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for inordinate delay in bringing the NEC Amendment Bill after getting views of NECM's Forum, NEMP's Forum as well as recommendation of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs;

(b) whether it is likely to be introduced during the on-going Budget Session; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) The NEC (Amendment) Bill, 1998 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 8th December, 1998. Subsequently, certain provisions of the Bill were reconsidered and amendments were introduced in July, 2001. This Bill was referred by the Rajya Sabha to the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee of Ministry of Home Affairs on 9th August, 2001 for examination and report. After consulting, *interalia,* the North Eastern MP's Forum, the Standing Committee submitted its report to Rajya Sabha on 18th December, 2001. The Rajya Sabha Secretariat remitted the report of the Standing Committee to the Department of Development of North Eastern Region on 20th December, 2001 for information and necessary action.

The suggestions made by the Standing Committee have been examined in the Department of Development of North Eastern Region and recommendations of the Department have been referred to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Planning Commission and Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Department of Legal Affairs and Legislative Department) for their views. These Ministries/Departments have been reminded to expedite their views.

For the reasons stated, above, the Bill is not likely to be introduced during the ongoing Budget Session.

Amount Transferred to Non-Lapsable Pool

4801. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the list of Ministries which have not complied with national commitment through various PN's Special Packages for NER indicating actual percentage of budgetary provisions made, utilized and amount transferred to non-lapsable pool of resources during last three financial years; and

(b) the action taken on 'Ministries/Departments' not complying with this national commitment?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No information is available about any 'MP's Special Packages' for North Eastern Region (NER).

(d) Does not arise.

Disinvestment of NLC

4802. SHRI C.RAMACHANDRAIAH:
PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Disinvestment Commission has recommended disinvestment in Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NLC is a profit-making PSU in Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the reasons for disinvestment of profit making PSU; and